

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An arrangement for filling and/or emptying receptacles filled and/or to be filled with articles, comprising:

a first reservoir that holds the receptacles;

a device that alters the level of the receptacles;

fence elements interconnecting the first reservoir and the device that alters the level of the receptacles, to enclose a work chamber; ~~and~~

a handling device for transporting the receptacles between the first reservoir and the device that alters the level of the receptacles, [[:]] wherein the handling device is located in the work chamber between the device that alters the level of the receptacles and the first reservoir, and the first reservoir includes an inwardly directed side that faces towards the handling device; and

a tray bay element adapted to couple with, and uncouple from, the first reservoir during operation of the arrangement, wherein the tray bay element is adapted to open and close in order to open and close the inwardly directed side of the first reservoir.

2. (Previously Presented) The arrangement according to claim 1, further comprising:

second, third and fourth reservoirs that hold the receptacles;

wherein the device that alters the level of the receptacles comprises a device that empties the receptacles and a device that fills the receptacles;

wherein the fence elements interconnect the first reservoir, the second reservoir, the third reservoir, the fourth reservoir, the device that empties the receptacles, and the device that fills the receptacles into an annular cell enclosing the work chamber, the handling device being arranged in the work chamber.

3-5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) The arrangement according to claim 1, An arrangement for filling and/or emptying receptacles filled and/or to be filled with articles, comprising:

~~at least one handling device for transporting receptacles that have been and/or are to be filled between a reservoir and a device which alters the level of the receptacles,~~

~~at least one device which alters the level of the receptacles, and~~

~~at least one reservoir for holding receptacles that have been and/or are to be filled, each reservoir associated with a tray bay element that opens and closes,~~

~~wherein the arrangement constitutes a closed unit, such that the handling device is surrounded in cell fashion by the at least one device altering the level of the receptacles and by the at least one reservoir, wherein the tray bay element comprises a roll-up gate.~~

7. (Currently Amended) The arrangement according to claim 6, wherein the roll-up gate includes a frame surrounding the roll-up gate, and the first reservoir is fixable to the frame.
8. (Previously Presented) The arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the first reservoir is stationary or mobile.
9. (Previously Presented) The arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the first reservoir has at least one compartment for receiving the receptacles.
10. (Previously Presented) The arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the first reservoir comprises a trolley.
11. (Previously Presented) The arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the first reservoir comprises a container trolley.
12. (Previously Presented) The arrangement according to claim 7, wherein the first reservoir comprises a trolley, the arrangement further comprising a plate element pivotably mounted to the frame to fix the trolley proximate to the roll-up gate.
13. (Previously Presented) The arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the receptacles

include a side facing out of the first reservoir having a smooth partial surface, wherein the handling device is adapted to grip the smooth partial surface.

14. (Previously Presented) The arrangement according to claim 13, wherein the handling device comprises:

a movable handling arm having a free end,

a gripping element which is arranged movably at the free end of the handling arm, and

at least one linear guide comprising:

a carrying element movable on the linear guide,

a holding element for the receptacles, and

a drive that moves the carrying element,

wherein the gripping element is adapted to grip the smooth partial surface of the receptacles.

15. (Previously) The arrangement according to claim 14, wherein the gripping element comprises elements for pushing and/or sliding the receptacles.

16. (Previously Presented) The arrangement according to claim 14, wherein the gripping

element has at least one suction cup for pulling the receptacles.

17. (Previously Presented) The arrangement according to claim 16, wherein the gripping element has at least one buffer element for pushing the receptacles.

18. (Previously Presented) The arrangement according to claim 17, wherein each suction cup and/or each buffer element is arranged on the carrying element on a side facing towards the receptacles.

19. (Previously Presented) The arrangement according to claim 14, further comprising a supporting element that supports the bottom of the receptacles arranged on the carrying element.

20. (Previously Presented) The arrangement according to claim 19, wherein the supporting element is movable.

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Previously Presented) The arrangement according to claim 14, further comprising a sensor element arranged on the carrying element on a side facing towards the receptacles.

23. (Previously Presented) The arrangement according to claim 14, further comprising a

monitoring element on the gripping element that monitors the contents and state of the receptacles.

24. (Previously Presented) The arrangement according to claim 14, further comprising at least one additional fixing element for the receptacle and/or for the contents of the receptacles located proximate the holding element for the receptacles.

25. (Previously Presented) Arrangement for filling and/or emptying receptacles filled and/or to be filled with articles, comprising:

at least one handling device for transporting receptacles that have been and/or are to be filled between a reservoir and a device which alters the level of the receptacles,

at least one device which alters the level of the receptacles, and

at least one reservoir for holding receptacles that have been and/or are to be filled, wherein the arrangement constitutes a closed unit, such that the handling device is surrounded in cell fashion by the at least one device altering the level of the receptacles and by the at least one reservoir,

wherein the at least one handling device comprises:

a movable handling arm having a free end,

a gripping element which is arranged movably at the free end of the
handling arm, and

at least one linear guide comprising:

a carrying element movable on the linear guide,

a movable, spring-loaded supporting element located on the
carrying element, the supporting element adapted to support a bottom of
the receptacles,

a holding element for the receptacles, and

a drive for moving the carrying element,

wherein the gripping element is adapted to grip smooth partial surfaces on
a side of the receptacles facing out of a reservoir.